bench should be constituted to reconsider the decision of that court in Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board etc. Vs. A. Rajappa and Others.

Insurgency Activities in Assam

2210. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government agree that major cause for insurgency activities in the State of Assam is the unemployment problem;

(b) if so, the details of steps being taken or proposed to be taken to create job opportunities for unemployed youths in the State;

(c) the details of basic infrastructure being developed so far or proposed to be developed to create job opportunities both in the private and public sector;

(d) whether any survey for identifying various sectors that are feasible for viable and sustaining job oriented programmes suitable to the region was made;

(e) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor and future plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Unemployment has also contributed towards insurgency activities in the State of Assam.

(b) and (c) Some of the Steps taken includes:

(i) Industrial policy in North East;

(ii) Prime Minister's economic package announced in October, 1996;

(iii) Recruitment to the Railways through the local Employment Exchanges particularly for Group D category;

(iv) Special recruitment drives in Army/Para-Military Forces;

(v) Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. has also launched special Recruitment drive, North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Ltd. (NEEPCOP) has introduced special scheme to impart training to graduate engineers;

(vi) Setting up of Assam Gas Cracker Project in a joint venture with Assam Industrial Development Corporation and Reliance Industries;

(vii) Setting up of the three Industrial Growth Centres in Assam etc.

(d) to (f) No specific survey was carried out by the Government. However, the Finance Minister in his Central Government. However, the Finance Minister in his Central Government Budget speech for 1998-99 has indicated that

(1) Government have decided to restructure the North Eastern Council (NEC) for speedy implementation of important infrastructural programmes in this region.

(2) It has been decided that a non-lapsable Central Resource Pool will be created for deposit of funds from all Ministries where the plan expenditure on the North Eastern region is less than 10 per cent of the total plan allocation of the Ministry. The difference between 10 per cent of the allocation and the actual expenditure incurred on the North Eastern region will be transferred to the Central Pool, which will be used for funding specific programmes for economic and social upliftment of the North Eastern States.

(3) It is proposed that the refinancing function for industrial loans of State Financial Corporation (SFC) and Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) institution will be undertaken henceforth by North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Limited (NEDFI).